LOCAL AND LEGISLATIVE SECRETARIAT.

No. L. 524—L. B. 26-26-1 dated 22nd July 1926.

In exercise of the powers conferred on Government by the Mysore Village Panchayet Regulation, it is proposed to issue the following rules.

Notice is hereby given that the draft rules will be taken into consideration on or after the 29th August 1926. Any objection or suggestion which may be received from any person with respect to the draft rules before the aforesaid date will be taken into consideration :—

DRAFT ELECTION RULES.

1. If a Panchayet is formed for a group of villages, the Deputy Commissioner shall fix the number of members to be elected for each village in the group so that every village in the group shall be adequately represented by election.

2. When a Panchayet is to be constituted or reconstituted or when a casual vacancy occurs among the elected Panchayetdars, the Amildar shall fix a date for the election of Panchayetdars or a Panchayetdar in the village or villages as the case may be. At least fourteen days before the said date a notice shall be published calling on the residents of the village or villages who are entitled to vote under section 7 to assemble at a particular time and place.

3. Whenever a vacancy occurs among Panchayetdars, the Chairman of the Panchayet shall report the fact within the 15 days of the occurrence to the Amildar.

4. Every notice under rule 2 shall be published—

(*a*) by affixing a copy thereof in the office of the village Panchayet, in the village chavadi, if any, or in a conspicuous place in the village and

(*b*) by beat of drum in the village.

The notice shall also be republished by beat of drum in the village on the date of election at least two hours before the time fixed for the election.

5. The Amildar or any person deputed by the Deputy Commissioner who shall, for the purpose of these rules be termed the Presiding Officer, shall preside at the meeting of the voters in the village and conduct the election.

6. The Presiding Officer shall admit to the place specified in the notice only such persons as are entitled to vote under Section 7. He shall then and there hear and decide any objection to the admission or exclusion of a person as a voter and his decision shall be final.

7. Any person who is qualified to be a candidate under Section 9 may intimate his desire to stand for election to the Presiding Officer who shall note down the name of every such candidate. He shall on his own motion or on objection taken by any of the voters present, reject the name of any person who is disqualified under Section 8 to be a candidate and his decision shall be final for the conduct of the election.

8. The Presiding Officer shall then read out the names of the candidates approved for election.

9. If the number of the approved candidates is not more than the number of Panchayetdars required to be elected, the Presiding Officer shall declare all the candidates to be elected.

10. If the number of such candidates is in excess of the number of Panchayetdars to be elected, the Presiding Officer shall proceed to conduct the election.

11. Every voter shall be entitled to vote for as many candidates as there are members to be elected provided that not more than one vote is given for any one candidate.

12. All voters wishing to vote must be present at the place and time notified under Rule 2 and no votes by proxy or in writing shall be received.

13. If the assembled voters of the village unanimously desire to be allowed to consult together and to elect the members in their own manner out of the approved candidates read out under Rule 8, the Presiding Officer shall allow them to do so and to report to him the names of the persons they have elected and if no objection is taken, the Presiding Officer shall declare such persons to have been duly elected.

14. If the procedure laid down in Rule 13 is not adopted for any reason, the Presiding Officer shall proceed to take a poll, recording the number of votes given for each candidate with his own hand.

15. The candidate or candidates for whom most of the votes have been given shall then and there be declared to have been duly elected by the Presiding Officer.

16. If there is an equal number of votes in favour of each of two or more candidates and the addition of one vote will entitle any of the candidates to be elected, the determination of the candidate or candidates to be elected shall be made forthwith by the Presiding Officer by lot in such manner as he may deem fit.

17. If any candidate duly elected at an election intimates in writing to the Presiding Officer, his unwillingness to be a Panchayetdar, the preson, if any, amongst the unsuccessful candidates, in whose favour the highest number of votes has been given and who is willing to take up office shall be deemed to be the member elected.

18. The names of the candidatet or candidates declared to have been duly elected shall be immediately published in the village chavadi and at the office of the Panchayet, by the Presiding Officer who shall also report the result of the election to the Amildar.

19. All disputes relating to elections to a Panchayet except those in which the Presiding Officer's order is final under Rule 6 shall be decided by the Assistant Commissioner in charge of the Taluk on an application filed within 15 days of the date on which the Presiding Officer declares the result of the election; but no election shall be invalidated on account of informality not corruptly caused or on account of any irregularity which does not materially affect the result of the election. An appeal shall lie from an order of the Assistant Commissioner to the Deputy Commissioner. The decision of the Deputy Commissioner shall be final.

PUBLICATION.

20. All notifications or orders issued by Government or other authority under the Regulation may be published in the *Mysore Gazette*, or in such other manner as the Government or such authority may deem fit.

Chairman.

21. When the Chairman dies, the Secretary and in the absence of the Secretary the Patel of the village in which the Panchayet Office is located shall report the fact to the Amildar forthwith. If the Patel himself was the Chairman the Shanbhogue shall report the fact to the Amildar forthwith.

22. When the Chairman of a panchayet is permitted to be elected for the first time, the Patel, or when the place of an elected chairman becomes vacant, the person who is required to send the report to the Amildar under the last preceding rule, shall fix a date for the election of chairman and give notice thereof to each panchayetdar at least three days before the said date.

23. The panchayetdars present shall elect one from among themselves to preside at the meeting. Every panchayetdar desirous of standing for the place of chairman shall notify his intention to the presiding Panchayetdar.

24. If there is only one such candidate, he shall be deemed to have been elected.

25. If there are two or more such candidates, the presiding panchayetdar shall ascertain, by show of hands or otherwise, the number of votes secured by each such candidate.

26. No panchayetdar shall vote for more than one candidate.

27. The presiding panchayetdar shall declare the candidate for whom the largest number of votes have been given to have been duly elected. If two or more candidates secure an equal and highest number of votes, the presiding panchayetdar shall cast lots for ascertaining which of them shall be declared to have been duly elected, in such manner as is approved by the majority of Panchayetdars.

28. The Presiding Panchayetdar shall publish the name of the successful candidate, in the office of the Panchayet. If no candidate stands for election, or if the members fail to elect a candidate, the Deputy Commissioner shall appoint the chairman.

29. The presiding Panchayetdar shall, along with a copy of the minutes of the proceedings of the meeting signed by all the members present, communicate the result of the election to the Amildar.

Chairman's powers.

30. The Chairman may grant leave not exceeding the limits which may be fixed by the panchayet to all officers and servants of the panchayet.

31. Every license or permission granted and every bill, notice or other document to be served or sent on behalf of or under the authority of the panchayet shall be signed by the Chairman or the Secretary, if any, or a panchayetdar duly authorised by the Chairman in this behalf.

32. The Chairman maysummon any person to appear before him and to give evidence or to produce documents, as the case may be, in respect of any question relating to taxation or to the grant of any license or permission under the Regulation. Whoever disobeys such summons without sufficient cause shall be liable to be punished under Section 63.

Secretary.

33. The following qualifications are necessary for the appointment of Secretary:—

(1) Literacy.

(2) Capacity to maintain accounts and registers of the Panchayet and to draw up proceedings of the meetings of the Panchayet.

34. If there are two or more qualified candidates for the office of the Secretary, the choice shall be made by the Panchayet in such manner as the Panchayet determines.

35. The Secretary shall act under the general control of the Chairman and be responsible for the preparation and maintenance of all registers, accounts and records of the Panchayet.

36. The Secretary shall be entitled for his services to a remuneration not exceeding 5 per cent of the actual income of the Panchayet from taxes levied under Sections 36 and 37 during the official year.

Meetings.

37. Meetings of Panchayet shall be held at the office of the Panchayet or at any other place within the Village or Villages for which the Panchayet is established as the Chairman may, from time to time, determine.

38. All the meetings of a Panchayet shall be open to the public, provided that the Chairman or the Presiding Panchyetdar may, in any case, direct that the public generally or any particular person shall withdraw.

39. Meetings shall be either ordinary or special.

40. The date of the first meeting of the Panchayet shall be fixed by the Chairman and the date of each subsequent ordinary meeting shall be fixed at the previous meeting of the Panchayet.

41. Three days' notice and in cases of urgency, notice of shorter duration, specifying the date and time of a meeting and the business to be transacted thereat shall be given to every Panchayetdar.

42. If within half an hour after the time appointed for a meeting, a quorum is not present, the meeting shall be adjourned unless the majority of the Panchayetdars present agree to wait longer.

43. A Panchayet may at any meeting transact any business other than that mentioned in the notice given under rule 41, if the majority of the members present agree to do so.

44. No resolution of a panchayet shall be modified or cancelled within three months after the passing thereof, except by a resolution of the panchayet passed at a meeting by the votes of not less than one-half of the sanctioned strength of panchayetdars.

45. The business at meetings shall ordinarily be conducted in Kannada and the minutes of the proceedings at each meeting of a panchayet shall be entered in a book to be kept for that purpose and shall be signed by the Chairman or presiding Panchayetdar, and such book, shall, at all reasonable times and without charge be open to the inspection of every voter in the village, or of any person who pays any tax or cess to the Panchayet.

46. Within three days of the date of a meeting a copy of the minutes of the proceedings at such meeting shall be forwarded to the Amildar.

47. The Chairman of a panchyet shall have the custody of the proceedings and records of the panchayet and may grant copies of any such proceedings and records on payment of such fees as are prescribed for granting copies of Revenue records in the office of the Amildar. Copies shall be certified by the Chairman as provided in Section 76 of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872.

By Order,
B. NAGAPPA,
Secretary to Government,
Local and Legislative Departments.

ABSTRACT OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BUDGET SESSION OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

(*June and July* 1926.)

The Budget Session of the Mysore Legislative Council commenced its sittings on the 22nd June 1926in the Jaganmohan Palace Pavilion, Mysore, and concluded its deliberations on the 1st July 1926. Rajakaryaprasakta Diwan Bahadur Mr. M. N. Krishna Rao, Second Member of Council took his seat as an *ex-officio* Member of the Council for the first time. Messrs. C. S. Balasundaram Iyer and Khan Bahadur A. A. Khan took their seats in the Council, *vice* Messrs. V. R. Thyagaraja Iyer and C. Dove-Wilson resigned. Mr. C. Ranganatha Rao Sahib took his seat in the Council *vice* Rajakaryaprasakta Diwan Bahadur Mr. M. N. Krishna Rao. All the members were present except Messrs. B. V. Ramaswami Chetty and S. M. Narayanaswamy Pillay and Col. W. L. Crawford.

The house was informed by the Secretary that the Emergency Regulation I of 1926 suspending the levy and collection of the Cotton Excise duty had received the assent of His Highness the Maharaja on the 28th March 1926.

The proceedings commenced with an address by the Dewan President. After the address, the Council discussed the general principles of the budget for the year 1926-27.